

# NEW IRISES FROM SOUTHEAST ANATOLIA

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ABSTRACT. A new *Iris* species (Iridaceae) of the *Oncocyclus* group, *I. nectarifera* A. Güner, is described from Mardin, SE Anatolia (C8). A variety of this species, var. *mardinensis* A. Güner, is also described from the same area.

***Iris nectarifera* A. Güner, sp. nov.** (subgenus *Susiana* Spach). Fig. 1.

Affinis *I. heylandianae* Boiss. & Reut. sed foliis longioribus, segmentis perigoniorum exteriorum angustioribus differt.

Planta 38.5-53 cm alta. *Rhizoma* obliquum vel horizontale, stoloniferum. *Folia basalia* 6-8, 26-36 × 0.95-1.3 cm, herbacea, falcata vel fortiter falcata. *Folia caulina* (1-)2, superiora 11.5-17 cm longa, nodi inconspicui. *Caulis* 22-37 cm altus. *Spathae valvae* 7-9.5 cm longae, lanceolatae, longe acuminatae, ex brunneo-rubrescentibus viride. *Perigonium* albidum vel pallide flavum valde purpurascenti-porphyreovenosum et -striatum; *tubus* 3.5-4 cm longus; *segmenta exteriora* 6-7.5 × 2.3-2.5 cm, spathulata vel lanceolata vel longe elliptica, macula media purpurascenti-porphyreica, barba 3.5 × 0.8 cm lata, capillis medianis c. 5 mm longis, flavis, lateralibus c. 1 mm longis, purpureis, basi bilateraliter 1.5-2 mm diametro nectariferis; *segmenta interiora* 7-8.5 × 3.7-4.2 cm, obovata, margine revoluta, barba 2.5-3 cm longa, capillis c. 5 mm longis, flavis. *Stamina* pallide flava; *filamenta* 0.8-1 cm longa; *antherae* 1.8-2.4 cm longae; *pollen* pallide flavum. *Rami styli* 3.5-4.5 cm longi (lobis exclusis), 1.8-2 cm lati, oblongi, fundo pallide flava, tenuiter punctulatis porphyreis; *stigmata* c. 2 mm lata, unilobata, subtiliter crenulata; *lobi* 1.1-1.5 × 1.1-1.2 cm, elliptico-ovati, erecto-recurvi, pallide flavi porphyreo-venosi, uterque lobus rami styli aequalior vel latior. *Capsula* 4.5-6.5 × 1.7-2 cm, fusiformis, breviter acuminata. *Semina* 0.7-1 cm longa, brunnescenti-purpurea, rugosa, arillata. *Floret* Apr.

## Key to varieties:

Perigone tube 3.5-4 cm long; basal leaves

0.9-1.3 cm wide ..... var. *nectarifera*

Perigone tube 2-2.5 cm long; basal leaves

0.8-0.9(-0.95) cm wide ..... var. *mardinensis*

## Var. *nectarifera*

Type. Turkey. C8 Mardin: Kiziltepe, Şenyurt to Tozan Karakolu, along Syrian frontier, c. 500 m, 17 iv 1979, A. Güner 1858a (holo. HUB; iso. K, E).

TURKEY. C8 Mardin: Kiziltepe, Şenyurt, around Tozan Karakolu, along Syrian frontier, steppe, terra rosa, c. 490 m, 3 v 1978, A. Güner 1673 (with fruits).

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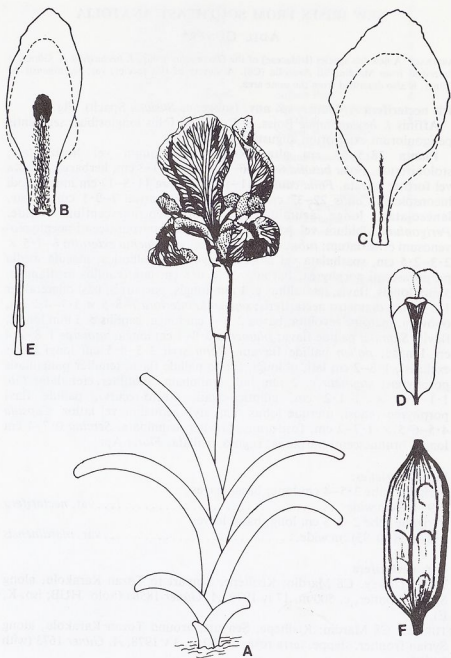


FIG. 1. *Iris nectarifera* A. Güner var. *nectarifera*: A, habit; B, fall; C, standard; D, style branch; E, stamen; F, capsule. A  $\times \frac{1}{2}$ , B—F  $\times \frac{1}{3}$ .

Var. *mardinensis* A. Güner, var. nov.

A typo perigonii tubo brevior, foliis basalibus comparate angustioribus et erectioribus differt.

Type. Turkey. C8 Mardin: Kiziltepe, Şenyurt to Tozan Karakolu, along Syrian frontier, c. 500 m, 17 iv 1979, A. Güner 1858b (holo. HUB; iso. K, E).

*Iris nectarifera* differs from most Turkish irises in its stoloniferous rhizomes and from all in having nectaries on either side of the base of the falls. It approaches *I. heylandiana* Boiss. & Reut., but the latter is distinguished by its shorter leaves (up to 20 cm long) and wider (3.5 cm) falls (fide Chaudhary's description, 1977). *I. heylandiana* was based on two syntypes: between Mosul and Baghdad, Olivier s.n. (G); and, between Diarbekir and Mardin, Kotschy 307 (G). In 1977, Chaudhary recognized these syntypes as two entirely different taxa, and selected Olivier's specimen as lectotype of *I. heylandiana*. He suggested that the Kotschy specimen is the same as *I. gatesii* Foster, a well-known endemic taxon to Turkey. Two other specimens collected from the same region (Syria, Derbassieh, iv 1940, Dinsmore 21512 (BEI); between Derbassieh and Ras-el-Ayen, iv 1934, Gombault 5769 (LNRC)) have been cited under *I. heylandiana* by Post (1934), Mouterde (1966), and Chaudhary *et. al.* (1976). Chaudhary (1977) suggested that these specimens are different from *I. heylandiana*, but considered them too incomplete to identify. These specimens are probably identical to the new species, *I. nectarifera*. Their localities are very close to that of the new species and their habitats are also similar.

*I. nectarifera* var. *mardinensis* is distinguished from var. *nectarifera* by its shorter perigone tube (2–2.5 cm long) and comparatively narrow and erect (not strongly falcate) basal leaves.

In the description of *I. nectarifera*, length and breadth of the basal leaves refers to the longest and the broadest leaves, and the height of the stem is measured from the base of the basal leaves (i.e. top of the rhizome) to the node of the spathe valves.

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